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BOROUGH OF RUGBY



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
for the  
Year 1954

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David J. Jones





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## To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Rugby.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

I herewith present the Annual Report on the health and statistics of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1954.

The section of the report on vital statistics shows no marked deviation from the general trend of previous years. The population figure as estimated by the Registrar-General shows an overall increase of only 190. (The natural increase, excess of births over deaths, was 242).

Deaths in 1954 totalled 427—of which number 68 were due to Cancer (this is 7 less deaths from Cancer than in 1953). In the table of deaths (classified) for 1954, it will be seen that there were 7 accident deaths from causes other than motor accidents. Of these, four in persons aged from 51—91 years, were from accidents in the home, causing fractured bones with the usual complications which arise in old age. A further case was from burns in a man of 82 years. Such accidents as these in the home in aged persons are often due to falling downstairs, and are oftentimes preventable. One finds in the houses where such accidents occur, poor lighting on stairs, inadequate hand rails and often insufficient space. The stairs are a problem to old age and the call for more small single floor homes for these persons is borne out by these accidents which keep on occurring each year.

In the sections on prevention of infectious disease, I have dealt with the importance of immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough and the necessity for vaccination of infants against smallpox. These matters cannot be too often nor too emphatically repeated. Diphtheria immunisation has proved itself since the big drive of 1941. The disease is now rarely seen, and to keep it so we must maintain a very high percentage of our children in the protected state. There were no serious outbreaks of infectious disease.

Housing demands continue on a large scale. The new council estate on Abbott's Farm will in time provide additional council house accommodation, but the houses do not "come off the line" fast enough to meet the demands of the housing waiting list. During the year there was considerable private building, and one notices numbers of houses springing up in what were not so long ago vacant spaces. The slum clearance programme must soon commence and a preliminary list has been studied by the Committee (Health). Much further work needs to be carried out before the actual work of demolition is started. However the Health Department has not been inactive in the matter of property which has outlived its time. A number of properties have been scheduled for demolition in the past year.

Reverting to Infectious Disease. The Mass X-ray unit made its annual visit to the town again in 1954 with more satisfying results. During 1955 it will be operating again, but dividing its time between two parts of the town in the hopes of drawing a larger area of the population and bringing the service amidst the people rather than the people going to one centre in town.

Our water supply was maintained at a high level of purity and quantity throughout the year. The work of deepening part of Stanford reservoir will give added storage capacity to supply the increasing demands of the town.



A further matter of great importance to the health of the town's inhabitants is the treatment of sewage at the main works. This has, by extensive modernisation and modification, catered for the anticipated demands that will be made in the future. The work, which has been extensive, has taken nearly two years, but the efficiency of the works will be much improved and the effluent discharged should conform to the highest standards. This is another great step in preventive health practice—an insurance for the future growth of the town, with the increased number of houses and population.

The general supervision of food and food premises was maintained. One feature which crops up from time to time is the appearance of a positive result to *Brucella Abortus* in a raw milk sample, and oftentimes too when the examination is carried out at the farm, negative histories and clinical details are obtained from the farmer and the herd. Each case is followed up systematically until a satisfactory result is obtained, but the only real answer to the problem is the efficient heat treatment of *all* milk before it is sold.

Mr. Bartlett and the other members of the Health Department have been unceasing in the hard work put in, but the staffing question has of recent months caused some anxiety. The routine day to day work in a Health Department must be maintained and we hope the situation regarding district sanitary inspectors will soon be improved.

Mr. Bartlett has, with his usual thoroughness, conveyed in Sections C, D and E, a complete survey of the control which the department endeavours to maintain over matters important in environmental hygiene, and to him I express my thanks for this and his ready co-operation throughout the year.

In addition I would acknowledge the information given by Mr. S. G. Fox, Borough Surveyor, and Mr. J. Smedley, Housing Officer, in the relevant sections of the report.

And lastly my thanks are due to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for the great interest they have shown in the matters which are of the highest importance to the community.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

DAVID J. JONES,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

ALBERT HOUSE,  
ALBERT STREET,  
RUGBY.

*August, 1955.*

## BOROUGH OF RUGBY

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*Mayor :* COUNCILLOR W. A. MANNING, J.P.

*Deputy Mayor :* COUNCILLOR F. J. PRESS, J.P.

*Members of the Public Health Committee :*

MR. E. T. HOBLEY (Chairman) ; MRS. E. F. MONCK ; MRS. F. M. SNADOW ; MESSRS. P. A. BATT, P. BROWNLOW, S. G. GIBSON, J. L. SKELHORN, J. STOTT.

The Mayor is an *ex-officio* member of the Public Health Committee.

*Public Health Officers of the Authority :*

*Medical Officer of Health :*

DAVID J. JONES, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

*Also holds appointments of*

Medical Officer of Health—Rugby Rural District Council.

Area Medical Officer—Warwickshire County Council.

Divisional School Medical Officer—Warwickshire County Council.

*Chief Sanitary Inspector :*

T. BARTLETT, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

*Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector :*

A. J. MASI, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

*District Sanitary Inspectors :*

J. R. DAVENPORT, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (Resigned November, 1954)

J. W. FINCH, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

H. C. REEVE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (Resigned November, 1954).

F. G. PERRY, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (commenced December, 1954).

*Clerical Staff :*

MRS. G. BATCHELOR.

## SECTION A.

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

#### GENERAL STATISTICS, 1954.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,010
Population (estimated mid-1954)	...	...	...	...	...	...	46,590
Rateable value (1st April, 1954)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£376,431
Product of a penny rate (1954/55)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,558 0s. 7d.

#### VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births					<i>BIRTH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated population.</i>
		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Legitimate	...	346	300	646	
Illegitimate	...	12	11	23	
		358	311	669	<b>14·36</b>

Adjusted Birth-Rate	...	...	...	...	<b>14·22</b>
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	--------------

Still Births					<i>Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population.</i>
		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Legitimate	...	8	12	20	
Illegitimate	...	—	2	2	
		8	14	22	<b>0·47</b>

Deaths					<i>DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated population.</i>
		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	
All causes	...	228	199	427	<b>9·16</b>
Adjusted death-rate	...	...	...	...	<b>9·35</b>

Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	<i>Nil</i>
------------------------------	-----	-----	------------

Infant Mortality					<i>Rate per 1,000 Live Births.</i>
		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Legitimate	...	7	3	10	<b>16·44</b>
Illegitimate	...	1	—	1	—
		8	3	11	<b>16·44</b>



<b>Deaths from</b>	Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	68
„	„	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	5
„	„	Measles	...	...	...	...	<i>Nil</i>
„	„	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	1

In order to compare the birth and death rates of the Borough with those of other areas, allowance must be made for the difference in the age and sex distribution of the population in each area. The area comparability factors supplied by the Registrar-General are used for this purpose and, when applied to the local figures, give adjusted birth and death rates, which are more accurate than the crude rates.

**Population.** The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population of the Borough was 46,590, an increase of 190 on the figure for the previous year. The natural increase, the excess of births over deaths, was 242.

**Births.** The number of live births again decreased in 1954 to 669, thirty-four less than in 1953. There were 23 illegitimate births, compared with thirty-one in the previous year. The comparability factor for births was 0·99 and the adjusted birth rate was 14·22 per thousand of the estimated population.

Comparative birth-rates for the years 1950-54 are given below :—

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Rugby ... ..	15·46	15·14	15·58	15·15	14·22
Warwickshire ... ..	15·72	15·84	15·56	16·3	

**Still Births.** There was a further increase in the number of still-births, 22 being recorded, compared with 17 in 1953. The stillbirth rate per thousand total (live and still) births was 31·84.

The rates for the past five years have been as follows :—

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Rugby ... ..	19·00	26·65	15·05	23·61	31·84
Warwickshire ... ..	18·90	23·44	18·16	19·77	

**Deaths.** The total number of deaths assigned to the Borough was 427. This is 15 less than in the previous year. The crude death rate was 9·16 per thousand population, and after applying the comparability factor of 1·02, the adjusted rate was 9·35.

The rates for the years 1950-54 have been as follows :—

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Rugby M.B. ... .. (No. of deaths) ...	10·82 (482)	12·18 (532)	10·16 (447)	10·01 (442)	9·35 (427)
Warwickshire ... ..	10·48	11·55	10·35	10·67	

**Maternal Deaths.** No maternal deaths were recorded during the year.

**Infant Mortality.** There were 18 infant deaths in 1954, two less than the previous year. The infant death rate was 16·44 per thousand live births.

The infant death rates for the past five years are given below :—

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Rugby ... ..	19·36	25·94	22·22	28·45	16·44
Warwickshire ... ..	26·94	28·42	27·88	24·35	

**Neo-Natal Deaths.** Of the eighteen infants mentioned above eleven died within one month of birth. The death rate of these infants was 17·94 per thousand live births.

The registered causes of death were as follows :—

<i>Causes of Death</i>						<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	5	6	11
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	9	—	9
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	9	9
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	4	4
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	22	13	35
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	32	48	80
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	51	16	67
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	19	32	51
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	7	7	14
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	16	12	28
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	10	5	15
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	5	3	8
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	5	—	5
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	20	19	39
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	4	3	7
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
TOTALS						228	199	427

**CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN  
UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.**

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Age in Weeks</i>					<i>Total</i>
	1	2	3	4	5-52	
1. Congenital malformations ...	1	—	—	1	1	3
2. <i>Diseases of early infancy :</i>						
(a) Intra cranial and spinal injury at birth ...	3	—	—	—	—	3
(b) Other birth injury ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis... ..	3	—	—	—	—	3
(d) Haemolytic disease of newborn ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	2
(e) Immaturity ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1
3. Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	1
4. Tuberculous diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	1
6. All other causes ... ..	—	—	—	—	4	4
<i>Totals</i> ...	10	—	—	1	7	18



## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

#### LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Public Health Laboratory Service is directed by the Medical Research Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health. The Coventry Laboratory, under the direction of Dr. R. Ewart Jones, serves the Central and Eastern areas of the County, and full advantage has been taken of the facilities offered for the examination of food, ice-cream and milk samples, specimens taken in connection with cases of notifiable diseases and the bacteriological examination of water samples. The chemical analyses of water and sewage samples taken by the Borough Surveyor cannot be undertaken at the Public Health Laboratory, and such samples are submitted to the Counties Public Health Laboratory, London, for examination.

#### LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES.

The Warwickshire County Council provide services under the National Health Service Acts for ambulances, domestic help, health visiting, midwifery, nursing and mental health. The day-to-day administration of these services is carried out from seven area offices, with the exception of the ambulance and mental health services, which are administered from the County Offices at Shire Hall, Warwick. Rugby Borough and Rural District combine to form the Eastern Area of the County for this purpose, and the services functioned satisfactorily. There was little change in the nursing staff position during the year, but at the time of writing this report the majority of the vacancies have been filled.

The increase in the demand for domestic helps has continued. The number of cases in which domestic help was provided was 199, and, of these, 68 were long term cases requiring help for a period of more than three months. At the end of the year 33 part-time helps were employed, and a total of 28,077 hours had been worked.

A list of the Clinics held in the town are given below :—

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>When Held</i>
Ante-Natal and Post-Natal.	Temple Street Clinic.	Every Wednesday afternoon.
CHILD WELFARE CENTRES :		
Bilton ... ..	Church House, Bilton.	First and third Wednesday afternoon each month.
Hillmorton ... ..	Dorothy Fenwick Memorial Hall.	Second and fourth Monday afternoon each month.
New Bilton ... ..	Methodist Hall, Lawford Road.	Every Wednesday afternoon.
Newbold ... ..	Church Hall, Newbold.	First and third Friday afternoon in each month.
Temple Street ... ..	Temple Street Clinic.	Every Tuesday and Friday afternoon.

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>When Held</i>
Dental      ...      ...	The Bungalow, Temple Street.	Daily. (Emergency treatment only 9.00 a.m.—10.00 a.m. At other times by appointment).
Minor Ailments    ...	Temple Street Clinic.	Every Monday morning.
Ophthalmic            ...	Temple Street Clinic.	Every Wednesday and Friday morning, and first and third Wednesday afternoon each month (by appointment).
Speech Therapy    ...	Temple Street Clinic.	Alternate Thursdays (by appointment).

The treatment of scabies and pediculosis is also carried out at the Temple Street Clinic when necessary.

The Clinics and Welfare Centres are staffed by medical officers, specialists and nurses employed by the County Council, and voluntary workers assist at the Child Welfare Centres.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No action was necessary under this Act during 1954.

## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

**Water Supply.** The three sources of water supply for the Borough and adjacent Rural areas are Stanford Reservoir, the River Avon at Brownsover and the River Swift feeder at Cosford. Water from the latter source is only taken during the summer months. Although hard in character, the raw water supplies are of reasonable quality, contain no excess of salinity or mineral constituents and only a trace of iron and manganese. No difficulty is experienced in treating the water for public supply purposes.

The quantities of water obtained from the several sources of supply during the year ended 31st March, 1955, were as follows :—

River Avon—Stanford Reservoir	...	...	447,460,000	gallons
River Avon—Brownsover	...	...	503,190,000	gallons
River Swift—Cosford Feeder	...	...	49,930,000	gallons
				<hr/>
				1,000,580,000 gallons
				<hr/>

The average quantity supplied per day to all users was 2,634,055 gallons, and the supply was maintained at all times. The total quantity of water supplied was 29,650,000 gallons more than in 1953. Details of supply are given in the summary overleaf. The quantity of water obtained exceeded the amount supplied by 39,150,000 gallons, an average of 107,260 gallons per day, this being the amount used for washing filters, etc., during purification treatment.

The whole of the Borough, with the exception of 15 houses, is supplied with water from the public mains.

The resident attendant at Stanford Reservoir makes regular inspections of the whole of the catchment area, and permission to enter the Reservoir grounds is restricted.

Extension to the purification works are in course of construction which when completed will bring the capacity of the plant up to 3,150,000 gallons per day.

Samples of water taken from the sources of supply, at various stages of treatment, from the pumping mains and at points within the Borough, were submitted for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis at regular intervals. The analyst's reports on all samples of water going into public supply stated that the results were consistent with an efficiently treated water, pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes.

**Drainage and Sewerage.** The main sewage disposal works is situated at Newbold, where the dry weather flow is estimated to be 2,100,000 gallons. At the second works in Hillmorton, the flow is 300,000 gallons. Treatment at both works consists of settling tanks, percolating filters, followed by humus tanks with some land irrigation. Practically the whole of the Borough is drained to the public sewerage system, and in most cases the foul and surface water systems are separate or partially separate.



**BOROUGH OF RUGBY—WATER UNDERTAKING.  
GENERAL SUMMARY OF WATER SUPPLIED.**

Year ended 31st March	Total quantity supplied for the year				Average quantity per day				Estimated population in Borough	Average quantity per head per day		
	To Borough		To Rural Districts	Total	To Borough		To Rural Districts	Total		Domes- tic	Trade	Total
	Domestic	Trade			Domestic	Trade						
1944	386,026,618	290,615,436	106,473,946	783,116,000	1,054,718	794,031	290,912	2,139,661	43,540	24.22	18.23	42.45
1945	380,963,026	292,757,258	107,419,716	781,140,000	1,043,734	802,074	294,300	2,140,108	43,930	23.76	18.26	42.02
1946	343,949,868	274,768,532	115,791,600	734,510,000	942,328	752,791	317,237	2,012,356	42,820	22.00	17.58	39.58
1947	356,903,458	251,524,956	113,341,586	721,770,000	977,818	689,109	310,525	1,977,452	43,410	22.29	15.87	38.16
1948	396,289,760	266,988,240	128,832,000	792,110,000	1,082,759	729,476	352,000	2,164,235	44,090	24.55	16.54	41.09
1949	363,768,250	265,983,450	122,048,300	751,800,000	996,625	728,722	334,379	2,059,726	44,420	22.43	16.40	38.83
1950	363,230,460	276,703,940	132,895,600	772,830,000	992,412	758,093	364,098	2,114,603	45,860	21.64	16.53	38.17
1951	395,498,360	286,112,140	126,942,500	808,553,000	1,084,166	783,047	347,787	2,215,214	46,780	23.17	16.73	39.90
1952	402,373,650	289,634,350	132,682,000	824,690,000	1,099,381	791,350	362,519	2,253,250	45,418	24.20	17.42	41.62
1953	462,127,210	300,379,590	139,837,200	902,344,000	1,266,102	822,961	383,113	2,472,176	46,200	27.42	17.86	45.28
1954	477,564,960	302,907,040	151,308,000	931,780,000	1,308,399	829,881	414,542	2,552,822	46,400	28.20	17.88	46.08
1955	495,330,200	318,559,800	147,540,000	961,430,000	1,357,069	872,767	404,219	2,634,055	46,590	29.14	18.73	47.87

Samples were taken at various stages of treatment from both works at intervals throughout the year and analyses of the final effluent gave the following results :—

Suspended matter (total)	...	...	10–60 parts per million.
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 27°C.)	...	...	4–9 parts per million.
Biological oxygen demand (5 days at 18.3°C.)	...	...	5–36 parts per million.

Extensions to the works are in course of construction and are scheduled to be completed during the present year.

**Refuse Collection and Disposal.** The system of refuse collection and disposal comes under the direction of the Borough Surveyor. Collections are made approximately every ten days, and disposal is by means of controlled tipping at two points on the outskirts of the Borough. The use of Gammexane dust spread over the tipping face has achieved control over fly breeding and crickets.

**Scavenging.** Two mechanical sweepers are used for all carriageways in the built-up portion of the Borough, and 19 street scavengers are employed to deal with footpaths and the general cleanliness of the streets.

Street gullies are cleansed mechanically, and the vehicle is used both for the flushing of sewers and gulley cleansing.

**Swimming Pools.** The indoor swimming pool at the Regent Street Baths has a capacity of approximately 85,000 gallons. The water is filtered by a Royles filtration plant, and chlorinated before entering the pool. Samples of water submitted for examination at intervals throughout the year were all reported to be suitable for swimming bath purposes. The total number of bathers in 1954 was 121,665.

At the open air pool in Newbold Road, where the capacity is 250,000 gallons, the water is filtered and chlorinated by a Paterson plant. Analyses of the water showed it to be of satisfactory organic quality and of a high standard of bacterial purity. The number of bathers during the year was 6,627.

**Rodent Control.** An increase in the number of complaints received during the year as compared with last year can be reported, *i.e.*, from 158 to 210, but such increase may be of little significance as indicating an increase of infestation. Rather is it an indication that the public are continuing to co-operate and are reporting infestations more freely. What is of considerable significance however, is that control is being maintained. No infestation has been found which is of a major character, and by far the majority have been very minor indeed.



SEWERS. Two maintenance treatments were carried out during the year in accordance with directions given by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and I am very pleased to report that again the Cattle Market and Brownsover Areas were found to be clear. Only one take was recorded in the whole of the Borough.

These results are remarkably good considering that in 1947, 327 takes were recorded in the sewers. This figure has been progressively reduced until a point has been reached when, with a certain degree of confidence, it can be stated that the rat infestation of the sewers has been virtually eliminated.

DWELLING HOUSES. There have been more complaints during the year, but none have been of other than minor infestations, often of not more than the odd rat seen. It may be that the colder weather at the beginning of the winter was responsible for a larger influx than usual from the rural area around. It is certain that Rugby will never be free from seasonal infestation but it is satisfying to know that no infestation is allowed to become established.

No costs were recovered in respect of these treatments.

BUSINESS PREMISES. This year 39 treatments were carried out and costs recovered.

CORPORATION PREMISES. Routine surveys and treatments have been carried out on Corporation properties. Twenty treatments in respect of rats and seven in respect of mice were found to be necessary. Having regard to the fact that sewage works and refuse tips are high risks, the position is very satisfactory. No infestation has been allowed to become established by reason of the constant supervision.

**Verminous Premises.** There is very little to report in respect of bugs and fleas and nothing as regards lice. Wood borers have been less active and in consequence less work has been undertaken. All treatments undertaken have been in respect of new infestations, no reports have been received of recurrence in houses previously treated.

The total number of complaints received in respect of insect pests was 34 and in respect of verminous and or filthy premises, four, requiring 66 visits.

Pests were dealt with by the Sanitary Assistant and for this purpose he made 156 visits as follows :—

17 in respect of bugs and fleas.

55 in respect of wood borers.

84 in respect of other insect pests.

Barrier treatment in new Council Houses by the use of benzene hexachloride as a residual toxic film on internal walls is still being continued. A total of 193 houses were treated before occupation.



**Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.** Details of action taken are tabulated below :—

**PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
FACTORIES ACT, 1937, FOR THE YEAR 1954.**

**PART I OF THE ACT.**

**1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).**

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	44	118	—	—
(2) Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	—		5	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-works' premises).	142		—	—
<i>Total ...</i>	186	118	5	—

**2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.**

Particulars	No. of Cases in which Defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness... ..	4	3	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ...	—	3	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	2	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	8	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	7	14	—	—	—

Further progress can be reported and a considerable amount of improvement in respect of the maintenance of sanitary accommodation. Bakehouses generally are well maintained and are given regular and constant supervision.

**Smoke Abatement.** During the year 90 observations were carried out on various chimneys in the town.

There has been no recurrence of the smoke nuisance from the Grain Drier and Silo at Lawford Road, Rugby. It would appear that the alterations and/or the arrangements made have proved satisfactory.

Occasional emissions of sulphuretted hydrogen from the Portland Cement Works chimney have arisen. The periods of emission have been short and have usually occurred at the same time of the day, and have been connected with a slight disturbance of the combustion balance in the kilns.

Complaint has been received from time to time of soot from the chimney at one of the hospitals. It is extremely difficult to prove that the chimney is responsible having regard to the circumstances, but the complainant has no doubt. As however the chimney alleged to be the offender is on Crown Property, the matter is one for negotiation rather than action by the Corporation.

**Canal Boats.** No inspections were carried out during the year.

**Shops Act, 1950.** No action has been necessary in respect of the hours of closing sections of the Act.

For other purposes 52 visits were made and one notice was served and complied with.

Other matters were dealt with under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

**Petroleum Acts.** Thirty-eight visits of inspection were made principally for the testing of new installations. No notices have been served.

**General.** A small increase of the number of complaints received has occurred an analysis of which will be seen in a table which follows.

# SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING 1954.

	<i>Visits</i>
Dwelling Houses ... ..	1026
Overcrowding... ..	9
Verminous ... ..	66
Tents, Vans and Sheds ... ..	12
Accumulations ... ..	37
Animals and Birds ... ..	34
Cesspools ... ..	29
Drainage ... ..	430
Drain Tests ... ..	55
Entertainment Houses ... ..	3
Factories Act... ..	118
Interviews ... ..	582
Knackers' Yards ... ..	8
Pail Closets ... ..	10
Rats and Mice ... ..	9
Refuse Collection and Disposal ... ..	33
Rivers and Streams ... ..	20
Sewers, etc. ... ..	281
Shops Act ... ..	52
Smoke Observations ... ..	90
Water Closets ... ..	100
Water Supply ... ..	15
Slaughterhouses ... ..	849
General Food... ..	576
Meat Shops ... ..	342
Food Preparation ... ..	172
Ice Cream ... ..	39
Bakehouses ... ..	71
Markets ... ..	161
Milk and Dairies ... ..	305
Cowsheds ... ..	3
Food and Drugs Sampling... ..	247
Bacteriological Sampling ... ..	408
Biological Sampling ... ..	77
Water Sampling ... ..	1
Infectious Diseases ... ..	374
Pet Animals Act ... ..	4
Petroleum Acts ... ..	38
Licensed Premises ... ..	29
Miscellaneous ... ..	86
Merchandise Marks Act ... ..	235
Housing General Survey ... ..	1053
Rent and Repairs Act ... ..	59
Boiler Houses ... ..	4
<i>Total</i> ... ..	8453



## ANALYSIS OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED, 1954.

<i>Cause of Complaint</i>	<i>Number Received</i>
Housing Defects ... ..	103
Defective Dustbins ... ..	9
Drainage defects, etc. ... ..	123
Animals, Birds, etc., improperly kept ...	4
Conditions in Factories ... ..	2
Offensive Accumulations ... ..	11
Overcrowding... ..	4
Rats and Mice ... ..	210
Filthy and/or Verminous Premises ...	4
Smell Nuisances ... ..	13
Insect Pests ... ..	34
Miscellaneous ... ..	10
<i>Total</i> ...	527

## SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED DURING 1954.

	<i>Served</i>		<i>Complied with</i>	
	<i>Preliminary</i>	<i>Statutory</i>	<i>Preliminary</i>	<i>Statutory</i>
Public Health Acts ... ..	129	40	109	92
Factories Acts ... ..	5	—	8	—
Rugby Corporation Acts ... ..	7	—	9	—
Shops Act ... ..	2	—	2	—
Food and Drugs Act... ..	5	—	1	—
Petroleum Acts ... ..	1	—	—	—
Rugby Urban District Council Act... ..	—	1	—	1
<i>Total</i> ...	148	41	129	93

During the year the Sanitary Assistant made 3,443 visits as follows :—

Miscellaneous ... ..	2012
Rats and Mice, etc. ... ..	314
Sampling... ..	323
Condemned Food Collections... ..	183
Disinfestation and Treatment ... ..	348
Drainage... ..	228
Disinfections ... ..	35
TOTAL ...	3443

## SECTION D.

### HOUSING.

The total number of houses owned by the Corporation prior to the War was 728 of which number 116 were erected by the Rural District Council prior to the extension of the Borough Boundary.

Since the war, to the end of 1954, the number of houses erected in the town is as follows :—

Corporation :—

Parkfield	...	60	Temporary Arcon 2 bedroom bungalows.
Station	...	54	Temporary Tarran 2 bedroom bungalows.
Overslade	...	44	2 bedroom bungalows.
Overslade	...	272	3 bedroom houses.
Overslade	...	550	3 bedroom B.I.S.F. houses.
Overslade	...	12	(3) 1 bedroom flats.
Overslade	...	12	(3) 2 bedroom flats.
Newbold (Glebe Estate)	...	256	(32) 3 bedroom houses.
Newbold (Glebe Estate)	...	60	(16) 2 bedroom flats.
Newbold (Glebe Estate)	...	44	(8) 2 bedroom bungalows.
Lawford Lane		30	3 bedroom houses.
Rokeby Estate		8	(6) 1 bedroom flats.
Rokeby Estate		60	(58) 2 bedroom houses.
Rokeby Estate		61	(59) 3 bedroom houses.
Rokeby Estate		8	(8) 4 bedroom houses.
Parkfield Road		15	(15) 3 bedroom houses.

*Private*      ...      ...      335 (74)

*Re-Building*

(*War-destroyed*)      7

*Kingsway Housing*

*Association*      ...      367

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2,255

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NOTE :—Figures inside brackets denotes housing accommodation completed during 1954.

The following table gives details of the numbers and types of houses let by the Corporation during 1954 :—

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	<i>Pre-War Houses</i>						<i>New Accommodation</i>						<i>Post-War Accommodation Re-lets</i>											
	<i>N.P.</i>		<i>P.</i>		<i>B.</i>		<i>Houses</i>		<i>Flats</i>		<i>Bungalows</i>		<i>Houses</i>		<i>B.I.S.F. Houses</i>		<i>Flats</i>		<i>Pre-fabs.</i>		<i>Bungalows</i>		<i>Sub-Total Cols. 1/20</i>	
	2	3	4	3	4		4	3	2	2	1		4	3	2		2	1				(a) Exchanges (b) Transfers (a)	(b)	Total No. of Tenancies Allocated
Jan.	1		1			1	19	4	3	3	4		1								2	5	1	44
Feb.							13		2			2	2			1						—	—	21
March	3						2	15	2	10								1				5	—	41
April							9	20					1									5	2	40
May							5	23	18				1	1		5	2	2				5	3	62
June							1	5	14	2								1				3	1	29
July							9			2										1		4	—	16
August				1												2	1				1	2	—	6
Sept.									4	—		2				1						3	—	11
Oct.	1						8									3	1					4	—	17
Nov.							1									9			2			3	—	15
Dec.							6						2			2						1	—	11
Total	1	5		2		1	8	108	58	19	7	8	7			30	2		6		4	40	7	313
	9						208						49											

Number of houses let = 266.

Number of persons (including children) rehoused = 931.

NOTE :—N.P.2 — Non-parlour 2 bedroom type.

N.P.3 — Non-parlour 3 bedroom type.

N.P.4 — Non-parlour 4 bedroom type.

P.3 — Parlour 3 bedroom type.

P.4 — Parlour 4 bedroom type.

B. — Bungalow.



1.	INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.		
1	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	333
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purposes ...	1026
2	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ...	—
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	—
3		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	9
4		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	129
2.	REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.		
		Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	109
3.	ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.		
	(a)	<b>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—</b>	
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	—
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
		(a) By Owners... ..	—
		(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
	(b)	<b>Proceedings under Public Heath Acts :—</b>	
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	40
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
		(a) By Owners... ..	92
		(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
	(c)	<b>Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—</b>	
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	1
	(2)	Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	3
	(d)	<b>Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—</b>	
	(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	3
	(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	—

4.	HOUSING ACT, 1936. PART IV. OVERCROWDING.							
(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	—
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...				—
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...				—
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	—
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	...	—
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...					—
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...					—
5.	NUMBER OF HOUSES OWNED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY							2,274

**Housing Conditions.** I have to report fewer housing complaints, fewer notices served and a lower number of outstanding notices at the end of the year.

During the year 129 informal notices and 41 statutory notices were served and at the end of the year 109 informal and 93 statutory notices were complied with.

No systematic house to house inspections have been carried out in the manner provided for by the Regulations and again I can only say that no good purpose would be served in doing this without a reasonable chance of effecting the work required by the notices which inevitably would be served. All complaints have been dealt with, but I do not consider relying upon complaints as the most satisfactory way of dealing with housing defects, but at the moment no alternative exists. Even if labour was available to carry out repairs, the staff is not, to make the inspections and supervise the work which would be required to be carried out.

However during the year a general housing preliminary survey was carried out for the purposes of the Council's report to the Ministry under the 1949 Act. For this purpose 1,053 visits were made. A further 59 visits were made in connection with the issue of 17 Certificates of Dis-repair.

During the year four complaints of overcrowding were received but none was found to exist. All were from houses in which two or more families were living but where the numbers did not exceed the permitted numbers for the houses.

One clearance order was made and confirmed in respect of an area comprising five houses.

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

**Meat and Food Inspection.** Until July this year all slaughtering for Rugby and District was carried out on behalf of the Ministry of Food at the Corporation's Slaughterhouse at the Cattle Market, Rugby.

With the cessation of control negotiations with the Rugby Master Butchers' Association led to the formation of a Group to undertake all the slaughtering for the butchers. This has worked very satisfactorily, but there is an element of doubt arising as to how it can operate, as the Group has no capital and no reserves.

Applications were received for slaughterhouse licences in respect of premises previously used as slaughterhouses. The Corporation refused the applications. One of the applicants appealed to the Court of Summary Jurisdiction which allowed the appeal, the applicant undertaking to carry out works of improvement. The Corporation however have appealed to the Court of Quarter Sessions.

It will be seen from the following tables that all animals slaughtered are fully inspected both ante- and post-mortem. Condemned meat was sent to utilization plants for conversion. Details are also given of the number of animals slaughtered and inspected, and of meat condemned in 1954 :—

	<i>Cattle excl. Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number killed... ..	2383	650	13872	5353	724	22982
Number inspected ... ..	2383	650	13872	5353	724	22982
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis:</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	11	18	135	23	26	213
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	241	179	378	134	5	937
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis ... ..	10.57	30.31	3.69	2.93	4.42	5.00
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	6	21	—	2	3	32
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	180	122	—	113	—	415
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	7.81	22.00	—	2.15	0.41	3.25



MEAT CONDEMNED.

<i>Animals</i>	<i>Whole carcasses</i>		<i>Part carcasses</i>		<i>Offals</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Beasts ...	17	7505	28	1976	759	11998
Cows ...	39	19439	48	2130	790	12367
Sheep ...	135	6221	54	549	932	2665
Pigs ...	25	2677	136	2208	263	896
Calves ...	29	1145	1	2	242	312
<i>Total</i> ...	245	36987	267	6865	2986	28238

GRAND TOTAL 23 Tons, 3 cwt., 2 qrs., 18 lbs.

Again this year there has been a decrease in the weight of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption. The total number of animals has increased by over 4,700, but not only is the number of cows down by nearly half, but the percentages affected by disease is also lower. This accounts for a considerable portion of the decrease, actually nearly 12,000 lbs. weight.

Foods condemned other than meat at the Abattoir, are shown in the following table in respect of which 210 certificates were issued :—

<i>Article</i>	<i>Tins or Packets</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Bacon ... ..	—	19
Fats ... ..	—	1
Cheese ... ..	—	160
Ham ... ..	22½	7
Fish ... ..	42	1041
Flour Confectionery ... ..	5	165
Fruit ... ..	268	207
Meat ... ..	208	2628
Milk ... ..	74	—
Ice Cream ... ..	—	70
Preserves ... ..	62	53
Sausages ... ..	—	75
Sugar Confectionery ... ..	—	275
Soup ... ..	5	—
Vegetables ... ..	326	17
Eggs ... ..	272 ( <i>number</i> )	—
Sugar ... ..	—	112
<i>Total</i> ... ..	1284½	4830

**Food and Drugs.** One hundred and ninety-six samples of food and drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis and the table given below summarises the results obtained and the action taken :—

Article	Formal		Informal		Action taken	
	Gen- uine	Adult- erated	Gen- uine	Adult- erated		
Algipan Balm .. ..	—	—	1	—	Formal Sample No. 52. Contained 21% excess water. Producer prosecuted and fined £10. Formal Sample No. 55. Contained 13·5% excess water. Vendo prosecuted and fined £10 and £8 17s. 0d costs.	
Baking Powder .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Blackcurrant Juice .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Butter .. ..	8	2	—	—		
Buttered Brazils .. ..	—	—	1	—	Informal Sample No. 18. Contained excess calcium carbonate. Vendor warned.	
Brazil Nut Crunch .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Cake Flour .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Camphorated Oil .. ..	—	—	3	—		
Cayene Pepper .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Cheese Spread .. ..	—	—	3	—		
Chilblain Tablets .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Chicken Paste .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Childrens' Aspirin Tablets	—	—	—	1		
Christmas Pudding .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Coffee and Chicory Essence	—	—	1	—		
Cold and Influenza Mixture	—	—	1	—		
Condensed Milk .. ..	—	—	1	—	Informal Sample No. 134. Found deficient of Vitamin C. Formal Sample No. 178 taken. Unsatisfactory. Manufacturers were warned of the instability of Vitamin C. Informal Sample No. 4. Vendors warned and stocks withdrawn.	
Cooking Fat .. ..	1	—	—	—		
Cough Syrup .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Flour .. ..	1	—	3	—		
Flaked Rice .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Fruit Drops .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Gin .. ..	1	—	—	—		
Glucose and Honey .. ..	—	1	—	1		
Golden Syrup .. ..	—	—	—	1		
Grapefruit Pastilles .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Ground Almonds .. ..	—	—	2	—		
Halibut Liver Oil Capsules	—	—	1	—	Formal Samples Nos. 72 and 75. Were two taken from individual churns in the course of delivery and found to contain a very minute quantity of water. On investigation it was found that the cooler leaked slightly. Farnier warned. Formal Sample No. 103. Found to be deficient of Fat. "Appeal to the Cow" samples were taken and it was found that the milk was as it came from the cow. The Milk Production Officer was informed. Formal Samples Nos. 123, 128 and 130. Were found to be deficient of fat. "Appeal to the Cow" samples were taken and the milk was found to be as it came from the cow. Formal Sample No. 161. Contained 1% added water, the vendor was warned.	
Honey .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Ice Cream .. ..	—	—	4	—		
Jam .. ..	—	—	5	—		
Jelly .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Lard .. ..	1	—	2	—		
Lemon Curd .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Lemon Flavoured Pie	1	—	—	—		
Filling .. ..						
Margarine .. ..	5	—	3	—		
Mango Chutney .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Malt Vinegar .. ..	—	—	3	—		
Methol and Wintergreen	—	—	1	—		
Cream .. ..						
Marzipan .. ..	—	—	1	—		
Milk .. ..	74	7	—	—		

<i>Article</i>	<i>Formal</i>		<i>Informal</i>		<i>Action taken</i>
	<i>Gen- uine</i>	<i>Adult- erated</i>	<i>Gen- uine</i>	<i>Adult- erated</i>	
Mincemeat .. ..	—	—	1	—	Formal Sample No. 174. Deficiency of 20% Meat. Vendor prosecuted and fined £10 and £8 15s. 0d. costs.
Minced Turkey .. ..	—	—	2	—	
Mint in Vinegar .. ..	—	—	1	—	
Mushroom Soup .. ..	—	—	1	—	
Nougat .. ..	—	—	1	—	
Olive Oil .. ..	—	—	1	—	
Orange Squash .. ..	—	—	1	—	
Parish's Food .. ..	—	—	1	—	
Pineapple Curd .. ..	—	—	1	—	
Potted Salmon .. ..	—	—	1	—	
Sauce .. ..	—	—	1	—	
Sausages—Pork .. ..	5	1	—	—	
Sausages—Beef .. ..	3	—	—	—	
Salmon Spread .. ..	—	—	1	—	
Tomato Juice .. ..	—	—	1	—	
Tomato Sauce .. ..	—	—	3	—	
Tonic Syrup .. ..	—	—	1	—	
Travel Sickness Tablets ..	—	—	1	—	
Vitaminised Tonic Tablets	—	—	1	—	
White Pepper .. ..	1	—	1	—	
Whiskey .. ..	6	—	—	—	
White Wine .. ..	1	—	—	—	
<i>Total</i> ..	108	11	74	3	

The number of samples taken was in excess of the 4 per 1,000 of population standard and the variety of food sampled was sufficiently wide to be representative.

Of the milk samples reported as satisfactory, 14 were “ Appeal to Cow ” samples taken after low fat contents had been reported.

**Milk and Dairies.** There are registered within the Borough 27 distributors of milk, 14 dairy premises and 8 shops, 3 of which sell sterilized milk only. Of the distributors 4 have premises outside the Borough and 3 are dairy farmers.

Licences have been issued to use the designations as shown in respect of the milk sold, and where shown, to process the milk, as follows :—

- 8 to bottle and deal in tuberculin tested milk ;
- 5 to pasteurise and deal in pasteurised milk ;
- 10 to deal in pasteurised milk ;
- 1 to sterilize and deal in sterilized milk ;
- 4 to deal in sterilized milk.

In addition one producer retailer from outside the Borough, holding a licence to produce and retail tuberculin tested milk, retails such milk within the Borough.

The following table shows the number of samples of milk examined :—

<i>Type of Test</i>	<i>Pasteur- ised</i>		<i>Tuberculin Tested Pas- teurised</i>		<i>Tuberculin Tested</i>		<i>Sterilized</i>		<i>Ungraded</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>N.S.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>N.S.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>N.S.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>N.S.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>N.S.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>N.S.</i>
T.B. Inoculation ..	26	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	33	1	68	1
B. Abortus Inocula- tion ..	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	34	—	43	—
Methylene Blue, Etc.	206	10	74	6	—	1	25	—	—	—	325	17
Chemical .. ..	31	1	—	—	6	10	—	—	22	4	59	15
<i>Total</i> ..	263	11	74	6	24	11	25	—	89	5	495	33



During the year 37 methylene blue tests were declared void on account of atmospheric shade temperature exceeding 65°F.

Frequent and regular visits have been made to pasteurising plants, temperature charts have been closely examined, and routine inspections and checks made of premises and plant.

A review of the milk supply of Rugby shows that the percentage of tuberculin tested, and heat treated milk sold in Rugby has now risen to 97% and indicates that so far as the Borough is concerned, little difficulty will be experienced when Rugby is included within a Scheduled Area.

One report has been received showing the presence of living tubercle bacilli. Action was taken to ensure that the milk was pasteurised before being sold for human consumption and the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was informed.

One new bottle washing plant installed during the year was checked for efficiency.

**Ice Cream.** This was a poor year. Owing to the summer being unusually cool sales were low, stocks sold slowly, and rather more samples than usual were low graded. In spite of this 89% of samples were graded I or II which is not unsatisfactory.

There are 9 manufacturers of ice cream registered in the Borough of whom 7 are using the complete cold mix method of preparation. The number of dealers has gone down to 101 a reduction of 12, of whom 94 sell ice cream pre-packed and 7 loose. The majority obtain their supplies from large manufacturers outside the town. There are a few vendors from neighbouring towns, all of whom, with one exception, sell pre-packed ice cream in the Borough.

A total of 66 samples of ice creams were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Coventry, for examination and provisional grading, the results of which are shown in the following table :—

	<i>Grades</i>	1	2	3	4	<i>Total</i>
Hot Mix	Loose	5	—	2	3	10
	Pre-Packed	27	5	—	—	32
Cold Mix	Loose	13	2	1	—	16
	Pre-Packed	7	—	1	—	8
	<i>Total</i>	52	7	4	3	66
	%	78	11	6	5	—

**Food Premises.** Visits to food premises numbered 1,669 during the year, a few less than last year, but having regard to staff shortages during the last months, certainly represents no diminution of the interest of the Department in these premises. I do, however, regret even the

small decrease, because the reduction represents so many fewer opportunities for those contacts which are so desirable and which we believe constitute the most valuable part of our work. The intelligent and conscientious workers have responded readily, and they constitute a majority, but there are a few who appear to be careless or indifferent or both, and even they respond to the proper approach sufficiently frequently made. Fortunately this minority is small.

The open market stall still gives cause for some concern. Although further improvements have been made, the display of food in the open is a problem which can only be effectively dealt with by abolition.

**Merchandise Marks Act.** During the year 235 inspections under the Act showed that there was general compliance with the marketing orders made thereunder.

## SECTION F.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There was no major outbreak of notifiable Infectious Diseases in the town during 1954, but there are one or two matters which merit comment.

Again in 1954, for the 7th year in succession, there has been not one single case of Diphtheria in the town. This again emphasises what has been said before in this annual report, and what has been said nationally by eminent medical authorities—that the efficacy of the protection given to children by immunisation has been proved as each year passes. Diphtheria is now an uncommon disease, and this fact has led many parents to think that it is not now necessary to have their children immunised against the disease. Nothing could be further from the truth. At the present time approximately 60% of all children under 5 years of age have been protected against Diphtheria—but this percentage is far too low to wipe out the disease—the approximate 40% not immunised are ever in danger of contracting one of the dread diseases of childhood. I would again impress on all parents the importance of having their children protected—they are now injected simultaneously with anti-whooping cough serum.

Similar remarks apply in relation to vaccination. Smallpox has been a very rare disease in this country for many years, but the rapidity with which persons travel from one end of the world to another—from a Smallpox endemic country to England—makes it all the more important that our population should be protected against the disease. There has been a slow increase in the numbers of children vaccinated last year and in 1953—and I can but hope that this increase will be maintained.

During August, and the following two months, there were a number of cases of Jaundice on one of the Council estates. It is probable that the disease was the infective type and the section of the population mainly affected was young children of school and pre-school age. The first cases occurred before the school summer holiday—in one or two school children—living in a *cul-de-sac* on the housing estate and the adjoining street. During the month of August—in this *cul-de-sac* of about 30 houses—a further 9 cases occurred, two of them with quite severe abdominal symptoms—followed by Jaundice. All the children in this circle tended to play together in and around the large car turning circle and the probability of intimate contact at play was obvious. A few further cases in the adjoining street occurred in the following months, with the obvious possibility of contact with the previous cases.

Epidemiological studies in the thirties and during the war have shown that one type of jaundice is particularly severe and infectious—and known as Infective Hepatitis—and it is probable that this outbreak was of that type.

Food poisoning cases continued to appear, and there were 20 notified during the year. Exhaustive investigations revealed no satisfactory



answer as to the source, but it so often happens that the materials required in order to carry out the necessary tests are not available—suspected food thrown away (sometimes totally consumed), vomit and faecal excretion thrown away. None of the cases were very serious, but it is most important that the Health Department endeavours to track down any suspected food to its source, and thereby diminish the field of infection.

**NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES**  
**(other than Tuberculosis), 1950-1954.**  
(FINAL FIGURES AFTER CORRECTION).

<i>Disease</i>	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Scarlet Fever ... ..	92	50	22	68	66
Whooping Cough ... ..	195	291	110	106	68
Poliomyelitis :					
Paralytic ... ..	3	—	—	3	2
Non-paralytic... ..	3	1	—	7	—
Measles ... ..	1057	469	225	353	43
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	39	88	28	39	55
Dysentery ... ..	3	5	4	11	19
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fevers ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	14	8	12	12	5
Meningococcal infection ... ..	1	4	2	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	1	1	2	1	4
Puerperal pyrexia... ..	—	1	1	2	4
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	10	9	2	20

**DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.**

<i>Number of children who completed full course of immunisation during 1954.</i>			<i>Number of children given reinforcing injection</i>
<i>Under 5 years</i>	<i>5—14 years</i>	<i>Total</i>	
622	15	637	552

**NUMBER OF CHILDREN IMMUNISED AT ANY TIME UP TO 31st DECEMBER, 1954.**

<i>Age at 31.12.54 Born in</i>	<i>Under 1 year 1954</i>	<i>1-4 years 1950-1953</i>	<i>5-14 years 1940-1949</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number immunised	102	1,897	5,139	7,138

## WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

<i>Number immunised during 1954.</i>		
<i>Under 5 years</i>	<i>5-14 years</i>	<i>Total</i>
607	8	615

## VACCINATION.

<i>Age at date of vaccination</i>	<i>Number of persons vaccinated during the year</i>					<i>Total</i>
	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1 year</i>	<i>2-4 years</i>	<i>5-14 years</i>	<i>15 years or over</i>	
Primary vaccination	320	20	29	13	35	417
Re-vaccination	1	—	3	17	170	191

## TUBERCULOSIS.

During 1954 the number of cases of Tuberculosis on the register of such disease in Rugby was 540—an overall increase of 64 on the figure at the end of 1953. The new notifications during 1954 were 76 respiratory cases and 16 non-respiratory—total 92. Inward transfers of cases moving to the town from elsewhere totalled 15.

The figures given (both local and national) indicate that present methods are getting control of the disease, but there must be no relaxation—if control and eradication of the disease is to be achieved in the foreseeable future.

There is one further important prong in the anti-Tuberculosis campaign triad of prevention, diagnosis, treatment ; that is the use of B.C.G. vaccination. In this area a number of contacts have been given this preventive inoculation which has been shown to have a definite preventive value in countries such as France, Scandinavia, etc. Extensive trials have been in progress in this country under the control of the Medical Research Council, and the report is now awaited. In some areas of the country the authorities have accepted the results from Scandinavian countries and initiated schemes of the B.C.G. vaccination for 14 year olds.

Re-housing of households where there is a tuberculous patient is still a priority on the housing list—but each case is very carefully considered on its merits.

Information on Tuberculosis during the past year or two has drawn attention to the fact that notifications of Tuberculosis have increased but that mortality from the disease has decreased. If we look at the figures for Rugby since 1949 this statement is borne out and evidence that the search for the disease is increasing and improving, and that the methods of treatment are controlling the disease, are shown by the diminishing number of deaths.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rugby</i>		<i>England and Wales</i>	
	<i>No. on Register at 31st December</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Total No. of cases</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>
1949	360 (59)	15		
1950	390 (68)	12		
1951	417 (71)	15	42,696	12,031
1952	475 (78)	11	41,904	9,335
1953	476 (89)	8	46,546	7,911
1954	540 (92)	5		

The figures in brackets are the number of new notifications in each year.

<i>Year</i>	<i>New Cases</i>			<i>Deaths</i>		
	<i>Respi- ratory</i>	<i>Non- Respi- ratory</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Respi- ratory</i>	<i>Non- Respi- ratory</i>	<i>Total</i>
1948	53	7	60	31	6	37
1949	52	7	59	12	3	15
1950	62	6	68	10	2	12
1951	63	8	71	11	4	15
1952	74	4	78	11	1	12
1953	76	13	89	7	1	8
1954	76	16	92	4	1	5

The 540 cases on the Register at the end of the year were classified as follows:—

<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-respiratory</i>		<i>Total</i>	
<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
268	197	39	36	307	233

The following table gives details of the age incidence of the new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease during the year :—



AGE INCIDENCE OF NEW CASES AND DEATHS  
FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1954.

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
— 1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— 5 ...	4	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
—15 ...	1	2	4	5	—	—	—	—
—25 ...	3	5	1	2	—	—	—	—
—35 ...	16	9	1	—	—	1	—	—
—45 ...	6	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
—55 ...	12	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
—65 ...	8	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
65+ ...	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	52	24	8	8	1	3	1	—

AGE INCIDENCE OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
(Other than Tuberculosis), 1954.  
(FINAL FIGURES AFTER CORRECTION).

Disease	0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65+	Age Unknown	All Ages
Scarlet Fever .. ..	—	2	12	45	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	66
Whooping Cough .. ..	6	13	12	34	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	68
Poliomyelitis :													
Paralytic .. ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Non-paralytic .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .. ..	1	10	11	17	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	43
Diphtheria .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .. ..	2	—	4	7	7	3	4	8	6	4	8	2	55
Dysentery.. ..	—	1	1	4	1	2	3	2	1	1	3	—	19
Smallpox .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas.. ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	5
Meningococcal Infection .. ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Puerperal Pyrexia .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	4
Food Poisoning .. ..	—	3	3	2	—	3	2	3	—	2	1	1	20

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
(Other than Tuberculosis), 1954  
(FINAL FIGURES AFTER CORRECTION).

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever .. ..	7	7	10	9	9	2	5	3	—	1	7	6	66
Whooping Cough .. ..	5	4	12	11	14	2	5	5	4	—	6	—	68
Poliomyelitis :													
Paralytic .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Non-paralytic .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .. ..	1	2	3	3	3	—	3	24	2	—	—	2	43
Diphtheria .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .. ..	7	3	4	9	8	4	5	2	—	1	3	9	55
Dysentery .. ..	1	—	2	2	9	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	19
Smallpox.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .. ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	5
Meningococcal Infection .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Nconatorum .. ..	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4
Puerperal Pyrexia .. ..	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
Food Poisoning.. ..	1	—	—	5	3	7	1	3	—	—	—	—	20
Totals ..	22	17	32	42	49	19	19	39	10	3	18	17	287

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1954 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated Mid-Year Population</i>	<i>No. of Live Births</i>	<i>Birth Rate (adjusted)</i>	<i>Total No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Death Rate (adjusted)</i>	<i>Infant Deaths</i>	<i>Infant Mortality</i>	<i>Tuberculosis Deaths</i>	<i>Tuberculosis Death Rate</i>
1928	24,290	322	13.1	229	9.4	21	65	13	0.54
1929	24,350	334	13.7	289	11.9	16	48	19	0.78
1930	24,350	311	12.8	239	9.8	13	42	16	0.62
1931	24,310	256	10.5	272	11.2	16	62	25	1.03
1932	*34,433	400	12.3	356	11.0	25	62	22	1.08
1933	35,070	379	10.8	392	11.2	17	45	24	0.68
1934	35,140	443	12.6	367	10.4	20	45	25	0.71
1935	35,680	400	11.2	406	11.4	11	28	31	0.87
1936	36,080	436	12.1	412	11.5	22	50	22	0.61
1937	37,260	498	13.4	420	11.3	20	40	22	0.59
1938	38,130	544	14.6	410	10.7	21	39	22	0.58
1939	39,190	534	14.0	459	11.6	19	36	30	0.77
1940	41,670	578	13.9	508	12.2	28	47	30	0.72
1941	44,180	690	15.6	487	11.0	31	44	22	0.50
1942	43,770	705	17.1	419	9.6	22	31	24	0.55
1943	43,540	856	19.6	462	10.6	33	39	19	0.44
1944	43,930	885	20.0	406	9.3	30	34	28	0.64
1945	42,820	823	19.2	429	10.0	38	46	31	0.71
1946	43,410	858	19.7	438	10.1	27	31	25	0.58
1947	43,780	865	19.8	482	11.0	31	36	29	0.66
1948	45,180	782	17.31	445	9.85	18	23.02	37	0.82
1949	45,860	797	17.38	505	11.56	21	26.35	15	0.33
1950	46,780	723	15.46	482	10.82	14	19.36	12	0.26
1951	45,850	694	15.14	532	12.18	18	25.94	15	0.33
1952	46,200	720	15.58	447	10.16	16	22.22	12	0.27
1953	46,400	703	15.15	442	10.01	20	28.45	8	0.17
1954	46,590	669	14.22	427	9.35	18	16.44	5	0.11

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